

~~ER 1-3253~~  
ref ER 1-3253

1 November 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: Transfer of SSU to CIA

1. Since SSU is used merely as a correspondence and information medium with no fiscal, property or other accountable activities, there is only a technical legal objection to the proposed transfer to CIA.

2. SSU was created by a memorandum from Secretary of War Patterson to General Magruder, dated 27 September 1945, to administer those functions of OSS transferred to the War Department by Executive Order. Its mission was to liquidate all functions except those valuable for permanent peacetime purposes or required by occupation authorities. If SSU had any real operations left, there might be a violation of the Executive Order, but under the circumstances as they exist, the technical objection is of no concern, particularly as the offer is being made by the Army.

3. Since there is a continual flow of SSU correspondence and it serves as a useful  correspondence on certain matters, it would be useful to continue using the old designation with the War Department letterhead. Accordingly, we have prepared a draft answer to accomplish this purpose.

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LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel  
Legal Staff

Attachment: Dft answer to  
to Army

LRH/ml  
cc: Subject  
Chrono  
Central Records